

**TWO NEW MICROVELIA WESTWOOD
(HEMIPTERA: VELIIDAE).**

By CARL J. DRAKE, Ames, Iowa.

The present paper contains the descriptions of two new species of *Microvelia* and notes on two other species from tropical Americas. The location of the types is given beneath the descriptions.

Microvelia longipes Uhler

Microvelia longipes Uhler, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1894, p. 219

Microvelia modesta Uhler, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1894, p. 220
(N. syn.)

An examination of the type material in Uhler's (U. S. Nat. Mus.) and Summer's collections (Drake Collection) from the Mount Gay Estate in Grenada, B.W.I., shows *M. modesta* to be composed entirely of long-winged females of *M. longipes* Uhler. As the latter has page priority, *M. modesta* must be suppressed as a synonym of *M. longipes*.

In addition to the specimens from Grenada, many specimens of *M. longipes* Uhler have been examined from numerous islands of the West Indies, Brasil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Paraguay and Bolivia. Both macropterous and apterous males exhibit great variation in the length of the unusually long hind legs. The extremely long-legged males are the swiftest water-skaters of the American species of *Microvelia* Westwood. The legs of the females do not show very much variation in length, and are much shorter than in the male.

Microvelia mimula B.-White

Microvelia mimula Buchanan-White, Jr. Linn. Soc. Lond., Zool., 14: 487. 1879.

Microvelia myersi McKinstry, Jr. Kan. Ent. Soc., 10 (1): 32. 1937.

Microvelia capitata Uhler, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1894, p. 218.

An examination of Uhler's specimens of *M. capitata* from Grenada shows that he wrongly determined *M. mimula* B.-White as *M. capitata* Guérin. The small tubercle on the next to the last ventrite of the male as well as strikingly different male genitalia separate *M. mimula* at once from closely allied species. *M. mimula* is also very widely distributed in the West Indies and ranges south into Argentina and Peru. As pointed out elsewhere, *M. myersi* McKinstry is a synonym of *M. mimula* B.-White.

***Microvelia minima* n. sp.**

Apterous form: Very short, moderately broad, ovate, blackish with a short, broad, transverse, orange-yellow band near front margin of pronotum; pubescence short, dark brown; last tergite usually bluish, body beneath bluish black; connexiva concolorous with tergites, without spots; legs dark brown or fuscous with bases of femora, coxae, trochanters and both femora and tibiae beneath testaceous.

Size: Length, 1.34 mm.; width, 0.75 mm.

Head: Width across eyes, 0.45 mm. Black with median line distinct; beneath black, with very deep rostral groove. Rostrum testaceous with terminal segment piceous. Antennae rather stout, shortly pilose with some longer bristles; formula—I, 12; II, 9; III, 11; IV, 22.

Thorax: Pronotum not very large, widely excavated behind, covering most of mesonotum; mesonotum very widely excavated behind, the exposed part short. Legs short, stout, the hind femora of male unarmed. First tarsal segment of both middle and hind legs about one-third as long as the second.

Abdomen: Length, 1.00 mm. Last tergite of male scarcely twice as long as the preceding segment, with a few brownish hairs. First genital segment of male beneath short, concavely excavated behind, on each side apically with a short longitudinal row of long bristly hairs (as segment is not fully exposed, structures not plainly visible). Female and winged forms of both sexes unknown.

Type (male) and 1 *paratype*, Rio Janeiro, Brazil, Nov. 11, 1938, Carl J. Drake. *Paratypes*, 2 specimens, Nova Teutonia, St. Catarina, Brazil, June 10, 1950, Fritz Plaumann.

Closely allied to the apterous form of *M. venustatis* Drake and Harris, but easily separated by its more ovate form and much longer last antennal segment, which is at least as long as the two preceding segments.

***Microvelia oraria* n. sp.**

Apterous form: Small, dark brown with transverse frontal band of pronotum testaceous and place near anterior margin; tergites with more or less distinct bluish spots; connexiva above somewhat brownish, beneath brown; body beneath dark bluish. Legs dark brown to fuscous with coxae, trochanters and most of femora basally testaceous.

Size: Length, 1.35–1.60 mm.; width, 0.50–0.60 mm.

Head: Width across eyes, 0.40 mm. Fuscous brown with distinct median line. Rostrum testaceous with terminal segment dark. Antennae moderately stout, rather long, shortly pilose, dark brown with basal half of first segment testaceous; segment I stout, feebly bowed; II slenderer, slenderest at base, thence enlarged apically; III and IV slender, practically equal in thickness; formula—I, 13; II, 10; III, 14; IV, 28.

Thorax: Pronotum very large, covering all or practically all of the rest of thorax, feebly rounded behind with the lateral corners more rounded, two and one-half times as wide at widest part (behind middle) as median length (50 : 20). Legs rather short, moderately stout, all femora of nearly equal thickness, clothed with very short hairs; femora of male unarmed. First tarsal segment of both middle and hind legs nearly one-half as long as segment two.

Abdomen: Length, 0.90–1.00 mm. Nearly parallel-sided in male; connexiva wider in female and more convex, not reflexed; tergites more narrowed posteriorly in female than male. Last tergite and ventrite longer than preceding segment in both sexes.

Male: First genital segment above distinctly emarginate behind; beneath rather short, broadly impressed on median line, with a V-shaped excavation behind, the longitudinal impressed part clothed with pale bristly hairs, the hairs along the sides of impression longer, denser and pointing inwardly with their tips turned downward, thus forming nearly parallel brushes on each side of impression.

Type: (male) and *allotype* (female), Port Limon, Costa Rica, Sept. 30, 1905, taken in a crab burrow by Fred Knab, U. S. Nat. Museum. *Paratype*, 1 female, taken with type, in my collection.

The much smaller size and antennal formula separate this insect from *M. hidalgoi* McKinstry and *M. oaxacana* Drake.

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